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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 NEW DELHI 007755

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/09/2014

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ECFS](#) [IN](#) [PK](#) [INDO](#) [PAK](#)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED BUS SERVICE STALLED BY DOCUMENT DISPUTE; RAIL LINK MOVING SLOWLY

REF: NEW DELHI 5796

Classified By: PolCouns Geoff Pyatt, Reasons 1.4 (B,D).

11. (C) Summary: The December 7-8 talks in New Delhi on beginning a bus service between the two parts of Kashmir made no progress after the five working-level sessions remain before the two Foreign Secretaries meet in Islamabad on December 27-28 to review SIPDIS Round 2 of Composite Dialogue talks. End Summary.  
Deadlocked by Document Dispute  
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12. (C) Despite recent public comments by NSA Dixit and Foreign Ministers Natwar Singh and Kasuri that the proposed Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus

13. (C) J&K Resident Commissioner Parvez Dewan (protect) told D/Polcouns on December 8 that the meeting was cordial and friendly, but observing that India was eager to open the road for economic reasons, Dewan called Pakistani proposals to use UN documents as in the case of

14. (C) Indian media were quick to claim that the GOP came to New Delhi intending to keep the discussion "political" as opposed to "technical" who travels on which transport company  
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15. (C) Discussion further bogged down over who would be permitted to travel on the bus. New Delhi sought to treat the service as any other infrastructure problem also remain  
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16. (U) Analysts pointed out that even if an agreement on the political and technical aspects of the bus service were hammered out, it would not open other roads  
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17. (C) The lack of agreement over travel documents continues the impasse over what could become a network of cross-LOC transport connections. Side proposal for Kashmiris floated  
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18. (C) Separately, "Asian Age" reported on December 7 that the GOI had put forward an idea for designated points along the LOC where divisional train link gathering a little steam  
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19. (C) The December 2-3 talks in Islamabad on the proposed Munnabao-Khokhrapar rail link connecting Rajasthan and Sindh were more successful. Remaining composite dialogue discussions  
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110. (U) The below schedule for the remaining meetings in Round 2 of the Composite Dialogue reflects the rescheduling of the anti-narcotics December 9-10 (New Delhi): Meeting of the Committee of Experts regarding trade issues.  
December 13-14 (New Delhi): Meetings between narcotics control authorities.  
December 14-15 (Karachi): Joint survey of the boundary pillars in the horizontal section of the Sir Creek area.  
December 14-15 (Islamabad): Expert-level meeting on nuclear CBMs, including discussion on a draft agreement for prior notification of missile tests.  
December 15-16 (Islamabad): Expert-level meeting on conventional CBMs.  
December 27-28 (Islamabad): Foreign Secretaries meeting to review issues discussed this month and to set a schedule for another round of talks.  
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111. (C) As NSA Dixit confirmed to the Ambassador on December 7 (reftel), PM Manmohan Singh remains personally committed to opening the Sir

112. (C) As the Composite Dialogue continues, it is becoming increasingly difficult to avoid the conclusion that Pakistan is holding constructive talks.  
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